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WEATHER, p. 11
THU: 77°F | 63°F
Mostly Cloudy
FRI: 74°F | 60°F
Partly Cloudy
SAT: 72°F | 59°F
Partly Cloudy

BP cuts funding to Cambridge-MIT exchange program

Popular fifteen-year-old program served 789 student participants

Vivian Zhong
STAFF WRITER

The Cambridge-MIT Exchange (CME), after fifteen years of being MIT's flagship international exchange program, will come to an end after the 2016-2017 school year.

Cambridge University chose to withdraw from CME after the corporate sponsor, BP, terminated their financial support for the program on the Cambridge end. Since Cambridge students participating in the CME only pay 15% of their tuition during their year abroad, the university has relied on BP to help make up the difference.

The Tech sat down with GECD Associate Dean Malgorzata Hedderick and Executive Director Melanie Parker to discuss the end of the CME and the state of MIT's global opportunities programs.

Asked why BP chose to end their partnership with CME, Hedderick said that "we can only make some assumptions based on what we know," citing the financial challenges that BP faced during the aftermath of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010 as the most likely reason. During a recent "significant restructuring," she added, BP had to make difficult choices about funding that resulted in cuts from many higher education partnerships. Parker noted that BP also cut some of their research funds to MIT, saying that she knows "it wasn't desirable … but it was something they had to do from a business standpoint."

And though it is tempting to attribute all recent British problems to Brexit, the withdrawal of BP from CME is most likely "unrelated, and the Brexit vote was coincidental," according to Parker.

The CME has been the most popular exchange program at MIT, with 789 students across both universities participating over 15 years.

CME, Page 6

MIT 2016
Celebrating a Century in Cambridge
MIT
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

TRISTAN HONSCHEID—THE TECH

President Reif welcomes the Class of 2020 at his convocation held Monday, August 29, on the Kresge Lawn.

IN SHORT

The UROP Direct Funding proposal deadline is Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016.

The first day of fall classes is Wednesday, Sept. 7, and Registration Day is Tuesday, Sept. 6.

The last day to waive MIT Student Extended Insurance Plan for the 2016-2017 academic year is Thursday, Sept. 15.

The List Student Loan Art Program will be exhibiting the art from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. now through Sept. 11 (excludingSept. 5). Students will have the opportunity to enter a lottery to borrow pieces for the year.

Send news information and tips to *news@tech.mit.edu.*

New Good Samaritan Policy expands drug violation protections

Student leaders worked with admins to revise Institute's help-seeking policy

By Karleigh Moore
EDITOR

MIT's Good Samaritan Amnesty Policy now treats alcohol and prohibited substances equally, new vice president of student life Suzy M. Nelson announced in an email to the MIT community last Thursday.

The policy, which previously applied to individual students, has been extended to offer protection from alcohol and drug sanctions to student organizations which include recognized and unrecognized groups, sports teams, fraternities, sororities, independent living groups. While the policy does not consider an entire MIT dorm as a student organization, the policy applies to floors, suites, and other groups within a residence.

Additionally, the new policy extends protections to students who maybe have been under the influence of prohibited substances or alcohol when they witnessed or were the victim of a crime or "a significant violation of MIT policy" such as hazing, the policy states.

One student can make a call on behalf of an entire student organization so that the policy will extend to the group.

Students and student organizations that use the Good Samaritan Amnesty Policy may be required to complete educational programming or counseling.

An FAQ about the policy states that an individual might have to complete "substance abuse assessment and supportive individualized harm reduction programs" run through the Community Development and Substance Abuse. For student organizations using the help-seeking policy, members might have to complete a "review of risk management and/or harm reduction strategies to support student health and well-being."

It is difficult to tell what the outcomes of any particular case might be since every situation has different circumstances, said Don Camelio, Director of Office of Community Development and Substance Abuse.

Policy, Page 12

EMMA BINGHAM—THE TECH

Students from Random Hall and East Campus mingle after this year's Water War.

Soap now provided in all dorm bathrooms

For the first time in recent memory, MIT is providing soap in every dorm on campus. Residents of Burton-Conner, Maseeh, Simmons and Random are finally relieved of having to buy their own soap.

MacGregor's president, Ki-Jana Carter '17, expressed gratitude at the attention the soap is getting: "it was definitely the defining theme of last semester's DormCon meetings." Indeed, even MIT Medical doctors got involved in the debate. However, the issue of sanitation is not new to MIT: over 125 years ago, Ellen Swallow Richards, class of 1873, pioneered research on home sanitation, leading to the creation of modern sewage treatment plants and to state regulations on food cleanliness.

MIT Residential Life having cleaned up its act, we now look ahead and wonder what the number one — and number two — issues will be this year.

—Olivia Brode-Roger

BLONDE

Frank Ocean's new album shows off his songwriting talents. **ARTS, p. 7**

HERMINE

Keeping an eye on the tropical storm. **WEATHER, p. 11**

MAGIC?

New Harry Potter book receives Acceptable OWL grade. **ARTS, p. 7**

RESTAURANT ROUNDUP

Discover new restaurants in the Boston area. **ARTS, p. 8**

OLYMPIC DREAMS

What is it like to train for the Olympics and be an MIT student? **SPORTS, p. 15**

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THE DAILY Confusion

Fraternity, Sorority, and Independent Living Group Rush 2016

Welcome to the Daily Confusion for FSILG Rush 2016!

Greek and ILG life are huge on MIT's campus, and while they may not be right for everyone, many people cite their affiliations as a key piece of what makes their MIT experience so fun and valuable.

Contained within these pages are events and short living group descriptions for Rush and Recruitment, submitted by FSILGs by our publication deadline. Independent Living Groups start on this page, and fraternity blurbs start on page 3. A map of MIT and all of the FSILG living groups is included on page 3 as well.

Guides provided on Saturday's Kresge Kickoff, the official kickoff of Rush, will provide more detail on the events. We hope you can use this to start planning out your schedule over the next few action-packed days. Be sure to explore as many places as possible, enjoy some delicious free food, and have lots of fun!

Sorority Recruitment

According to the MIT Panhellenic Association, 30 percent of MIT women belong in a sorority. Formal recruitment begins on Saturday, September 3, 2016. Registration instructions can be found at *http://panhel.mit.edu/recruitment-registration/*. The official schedule can be found at *http://panhel.mit.edu/recruitment-schedule/*.

Independent Living Groups

MESSAGES FROM INDEPENDENT LIVING GROUPS

Epsilon Theta

ET is a dry, co-ed MIT living group made up of about twenty humans (known as "Thetans"). We're known for our friendliness, quirky sense of humor, and fondness for baby ducks. On a typical afternoon at ET, you can find us: playing board games, singing nerdy songs, playing video games, enjoying a meal prepared by our cook, and engaging in both silly and serious discussions. Look for the yellow duck in Lobby 7 at the times listed. Check us out at et.mit.edu!

—ET Rush Chairs

pika

We are a continuing experiment in cooperative living. We cook together, clean together, and make all house decisions by consensus. There's art on every wall, instruments everywhere, and spontaneous dance parties in the kitchen. Our pantry yells if you leave it open, there's a three-story firepole right above our chicken coop, and our rooms have bizarre names.

There is no "typical pikan". We have a wide array of interests and personalities. But if you want a place that is weird and wonderful, that loves roasting vegetables, that's sex positive and queer friendly, independent and thrifty, artsy and nifty, we might be the place for you.

— Mads

Student House

We are a non-Greek co-ed Independent Living Group (ILG) at Kenmore Square, Boston, across the Charles River from MIT. Consisting of 22 undergraduate students, we are a supportive, friendly, close-knit community. As a community, we enjoy delicious home-cooked dinners together every Sunday to Thursday. We have weekly social nights and movie nights, in addition to organizing our Thanksgiving Formal and Spring Formal.

For more information visit studs.mit.edu.

—MIT Student House

Events for Independent Living Groups

Saturday, September 3, 2016

12:00 PM

12:15 PM - 11:00 PM **Epsilon Theta**
Games, Escape the Room, and Locks. Chili @12:15, Games That Shouldn't Be Played That Way @1:30, Escape the Room @3:30, Curry @5:15, Lockpicking @7:00, Silly Video Games @9:00!

1:00 PM

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM **Student House**
Barbecue. Join us for the BBQ. Meat and veggie options available. Play pool and foosball while you take breaks.

3:00 PM

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM **Student House**
Soccer and Frisbee in Charles River Esplanade. Soccer/Frisbee with the members of Student House in Charles River Esplanade.

5:00 PM

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM **Student House**
Street Fighter V Game Tournament. Street Fighter V video game tournament at Student House. Additionally, pool or table tennis.

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM **pika**
Art & Mural Drawing. Make art for pika wall, or make entire murals ! Draw on the wall, make a revered painting/drawing for our pika art gallery

7:00 PM

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM **Student House**
Dinner with Student House members. Come enjoy delicious dinner cooked by Student House student-chefs.

9:00 PM

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM **Student House**
Game Night!. Play pool, board games, card games, video games, and just about everything else you can imagine. Come by to have a great time!

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM **pika**
Tea Blending & Consumption Party. Blend teas with pika's wonderful collection of herbs! Pick some aromatic leaves from the garden, if you want. Then, drink them right there on the spot.

Sunday, September 4, 2016

11:00 AM

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM **Student House**
Laser Tag. Join us for a game of Laser Tag and show off your battlefield skills.

12:00 PM

12:15 PM - 11:00 PM **Epsilon Theta**
Puzzles! Puzzles! Puzzles!. Soups @12:15, Puzzle Hunt @1:30, Build your own pizza @5:15, play telephone variants @7:00, navigate a lazer maze @9:00. Plus Sundaes!

1:00 PM

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM **Student House**
Pizza lunch. Pizza lunch at Bertucci's after Laser Tag.

3:00 PM

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM **Student House**
Charles River Cruise. Charles River Cruise with Student House members.

5:00 PM

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM **pika**
Heresy and Hair Dyeing. Modify one or more hairs on your head. We will help you realize your hair dream :)

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM **Student House**
Dinner at Student House. Dinner at Student House.

7:00 PM

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM **pika**
Ristorante Italiano. Dinner! Simply speaking, an extravaganza of Italian food. Come any time before 7pm if you want to help cook! Meat and vegan options available.

Monday, September 5, 2016

1:00 PM

1:30 PM - 11:00 PM **Epsilon Theta**
Games and LARPs. Dominion Tournament at 1:30, Pasta with ALL the Sauces at 5:15, Silly LARPs at 7:00, Smash and Nachos at 9:00!

5:00 PM

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM **pika**
Roll your own sushi!. Roll your own (sushi)! We will provide all of the components: seasoned rice, seaweed, beautifully prepared vegetables, and, perhaps, raw dead fish...

9:00 PM

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM **Student House**
Game Night!. Play pool, board games, card games, video games, and just about everything else you can imagine. Come by to have a great time!

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

1:00 PM

1:30 PM - 11:00 PM **Epsilon Theta**
Many Ways to Play. Trip to Skyzone @1:30, Painting @3:30, dinner @5:15, be a ducktective @7:00, join our LAN party and build edible towers @9:00!

7:00 PM

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM **pika**
Rainbow Dinner. Everyone is welcome at this dinner, dressed up or not! Come by early if you want to help cook!

9:00 PM

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM **pika**
Poetry Open Mic. "Bring your favorite poetry books or your own poetry, or read some of ours!"

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

4:00 PM

4:45 PM - 11:00 PM **Epsilon Theta**
Games and Improv. Insanely Fast Games in Lobby 7 @4:45, Breakfast for Dinner @5:15, Mafia+Resistance @7:00, and Powerpoint Karaoke with unusual snacks @9:00!

7:00 PM

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM **pika**
Thai Dining. This dinner will be delicious. Seriously. Come eat our food. Vegan and gluten free options available.

Thursday, September 8, 2016

4:00 PM

4:45 PM - 11:00 PM **Epsilon Theta**
Building and Relaxing. Chess Variants in Lobby 7 @4:45, dinner @5:15, Build a Thing out of Stuff @7:00, calm down with tea, calm things, and mochi @9:00!

8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM **pika**
Popcorn Reading Erotica. Come practise your awful moaning and bad dirty talk in a zone of zero judgment (of readers, anyways. No promises about judging the authors)

10:00 PM

10:00 PM - 11:00 PM **pika**
Sex (minus the scare tactics). Let's talk about sex and eat sexy foods. BDSM, polyamory, safer sex, birth control, the November rule, consent, STIs, and "hookup culture".

Friday, September 9, 2016

4:00 PM

4:45 PM - 11:00 PM **Epsilon Theta**
Computer, Human, and Duck Friends. Duck Duck Goose in Lobby 7 @4:45, dumplings with our alums @5:15, Reverse Turing Test @7:00, Blanket Fort with smores @9:00!

Saturday, September 10, 2016

12:00 PM

12:15 PM - 11:00 PM **Epsilon Theta**
Adventures, Estimations, and Musicals. Lunch @12:15, Scavenger Hunt @1:30, tacos @5:15, Fermi Questions @7:00, Musicals Movie Night and Blind Taste Test @9:00!

Sunday, September 11, 2016

12:00 PM

12:15 PM - 11:00 PM **Epsilon Theta**
Video Games, Science, and More. Lunch @12:15, ET Labs @1:30, Live Oction Video Games @3:30, make your own sushi @5:15, Not Lectures @7:00, Video Game Tournament @9:00

Alpha Delta Phi

What does brotherhood mean to you?

To the brothers of Alpha Delta Phi brotherhood takes on a multitude of meanings, but beneath the manifold of differences there lies one unifying meaning: to have a family and home at MIT. The crazy stories of hikes into the White Mountains of the Appalachians, those nights spent playing Settlers of Catan and Rock Band until sunrise, the hours spent working on p-sets and prepping for interviews together; these are the stories of the family that is Alpha Delta Phi.

As one of MIT's largest houses we are proud to host a diverse brotherhood that is involved in all aspects of MIT culture. From importing torches and truckloads of sand for an epic beach party on our patio to preparing fine foods and drinks for a quaint literary night, the brotherhood embraces the wide spectrum of social interests within the house. Outside of the house, groups of brothers explore the world by hanging out in Boston, hitting up Vermont for skiing, and traveling to places such as New York City, Montreal, and Puerto Rico. Our five-story house is in a prime location, about a 5 minute walk from campus and surrounded by great restaurants and nightlife in Central Square. Within the house brothers gather for lunch and dinner, prepared 5 times a week by our professional chef, and enjoy our amenities, ranging from our hot tub to our workroom.

Alpha Delta Phi is a place where diversity thrives and where you can always find someone who's interested and knowledgeable in whatever you ask. We each care about different things (ask our Physics majors about Hilbert Spaces, or our Philosophy majors about Nietzsche), and have different tastes. But through the blanket of diversity shines a unified family which cares for each other and for the values which we stand together under. Our chapter, chartered in 1976, already boasts many successful alumni such as the founders of Harmonix (Guitar Hero and Rock Band), iRobot (Roombas), and Terrafugia (flying cars!) and it continues to produce great men who are ready to change the world. Take the short walk up to 351 Massachusetts Ave, and come experience what being part of the Alpha Delta Phi family is all about!

Alpha Epsilon Pi

Sure, the Mu Tau chapter of AEPi is the Jewish Fraternity at MIT. We're also a diverse group of students, from both the US and around the globe, who excel in academics (with the highest fraternal GPA on campus), philanthropy (with over \$75,000 raised the past three years), varsity sports, music, research and more. Of course, we also know how to have fun: parties and mixers, grilling while relaxing in our hot tub, our amazing banana bread study breaks, and brotherhood retreats to the beach on Martha's Vineyard and the slopes of Mont Tremblant are just a few of the events we have throughout the year.

Founded in 1951, our chapter's alumni are strong and diverse, and include everything from Nobel Prize winners to astronauts. More important than all of that, however, is the fact that brotherhood and camaraderie are deeply ingrained within each of us. On any given night, you can find us enjoying a dinner catered by one of the best restaurants in Cambridge, helping each other with school work, or watching sports and playing Halo on our stacked HD TVs. The point is, our brotherhood is exactly that: a brotherhood. We go above and beyond to help one another, and this commitment to one another has helped us to succeed and achieve greatness. So come visit us at 155 Bay State Road. We can't wait to meet you.

Beta Theta Pi

What makes Beta different? Our tight knit, diverse community of brothers. Betas are athletes, ROTC cadets, makers, pilots, EMTs, gamers, and everything in between. Our recently remodeled house and annex boast amenities ranging from a gourmet chef and comfortable study areas, to our one of a kind machine shop with 3D printers, laser cutters, electronics tools and more. Right outside our door is the Boston Esplanade and Kenmore Square. This provides the perfect environment to enjoy college while excelling in all your endeavors.

Founded under the national Men of Principle Initiative our chapter focuses on cultivating our five core values in each brother: intellect, responsible conduct, mutual assistance, integrity, and trust. Our award winning alumni network spans CEOs to astronauts and provides us with the resources we need to succeed both now and after college.

We look forward to welcoming the class of 2020 and wish everyone the best of luck with rush.

Chi Phi

While the brothers of Chi Phi are amazingly diverse in their nationalities, interests, and activities, they are all united by one common theme: success in everything they do. Whether in the classroom, on the field, or in the boardroom, the brothers of Chi Phi demonstrate excellence in their endeavors. Brothers and alumni of Chi Phi are involved in a wide variety of industries and disciplines such as banking, engineering, software, academia, medicine, and many others. The diverse interests and significant campus involvement of the brothers enables those interested in any area to get critical experience early on at MIT –-- an invaluable benefit for the brothers of Chi Phi.

Our pursuits are not the only thing that unites Chi Phi. Located a block from Newbury Street in the Back Bay, our location allows us to enjoy all that Boston has to offer while only being a scenic fifteen-minute walk from campus. Living and working side-by- side in our beautiful, historic home brings us together not just for four years, but for life. It's for this reason that Chi Phi has one of the most active and involved alumni networks among all MIT fraternities. The inseparable friendships formed from the years as a Chi Phi brother have merits for a lifetime -- something that truly makes each and every brother proud to be a Chi Phi.

Delta Kappa Epsilon

Delta Kappa Epsilon is not just another MIT fraternity. DKE is richer in tradition, achievement and pride than almost any fraternity here. Founded in 1844 and established at MIT in 1890, it is one of the oldest and strongest fraternities at MIT. DKE is not great because it is old - it is old because it is great. At the Sigma Tau chapter of DKE, brotherhood enriches our experiences and helps to guide us toward our personal aspirations. Dekes develop integrity, responsibility, scholarship, and social prestige. DKE is not interested in mediocrity; we seek excellence. We take pride in being Dekes. Your acceptance into MIT and your choice to attend show that you have the academic skills and drive to succeed. Now you have the chance to join over 80,000 brothers renowned worldwide for their pride and success.

The Brothers are brought together by their passion for sports, music, academic curiosity, and desire to have a good time. Dekes are actively involved in all facets of campus life from varsity and club athletics, to The Tech and community service. DKE has brothers who participate in the Varsity Football, Baseball, Track \& Field, and Lacrosse teams, as well as the Club Hockey and Wrestling teams. Additionally, many of our brothers are active members in extracurricular activities around campus. DKE is privileged to have a beautiful house located on campus overlooking the Charles along with a strong, dedicated alumni network.

Delta Psi/No.6 Club

The Number Six Club is a nationally-affiliated, co-ed literary fraternity. Since our founding in 1889, we have identified as a group which collectively aims to develop a cultured understanding of the world through discussion and debate. Our four-story, ivy-covered house is one of the oldest buildings on campus, located between Burton-Conner and MacGregor.

To its members, The Number Six Club is a home, a connection, a place where we can discuss deep questions about life and the world. It is a place to let off steam on the weekends, a place to party, relax, and enjoy the little things, and it is a valued aspect of our MIT experience.

As a literary society, we provide each other with a receptive medium for personal expression. Through conversations and presentations, we pursue our interests, ranging from the arts to politics, from science to culture, and from philosophy to music. Additionally, we host a Lecture Series where distinguished academics and speakers provoke discussions amongst members and friends.

Delta Tau Delta

Delta Tau Delta boasts a tight-knit Brotherhood, strong academic support, and a lively social program. Located in beautiful Back Bay, the Delt House is a spacious brownstone filled with a diverse group of 34 driven brothers. Our house includes an incredible roofdeck, study room, library, music room, gym, six-car garage, laundry facilities, 72" HDTV, pool table, piano, and a 20TB server. Our personal chef, a former chef at Legal Seafoods, provides our meals.

You can find Delts (both active brothers and alumni alike) in entrepreneurship, tech, finance, and business. Founded in 1889, our chapter has been has been a leader on campus and our brothers have gone on to be leaders around the world. To name a few, the head of Google's Project Loon and the CEO of Draper Labs are proud, involved alumni of our chapter.

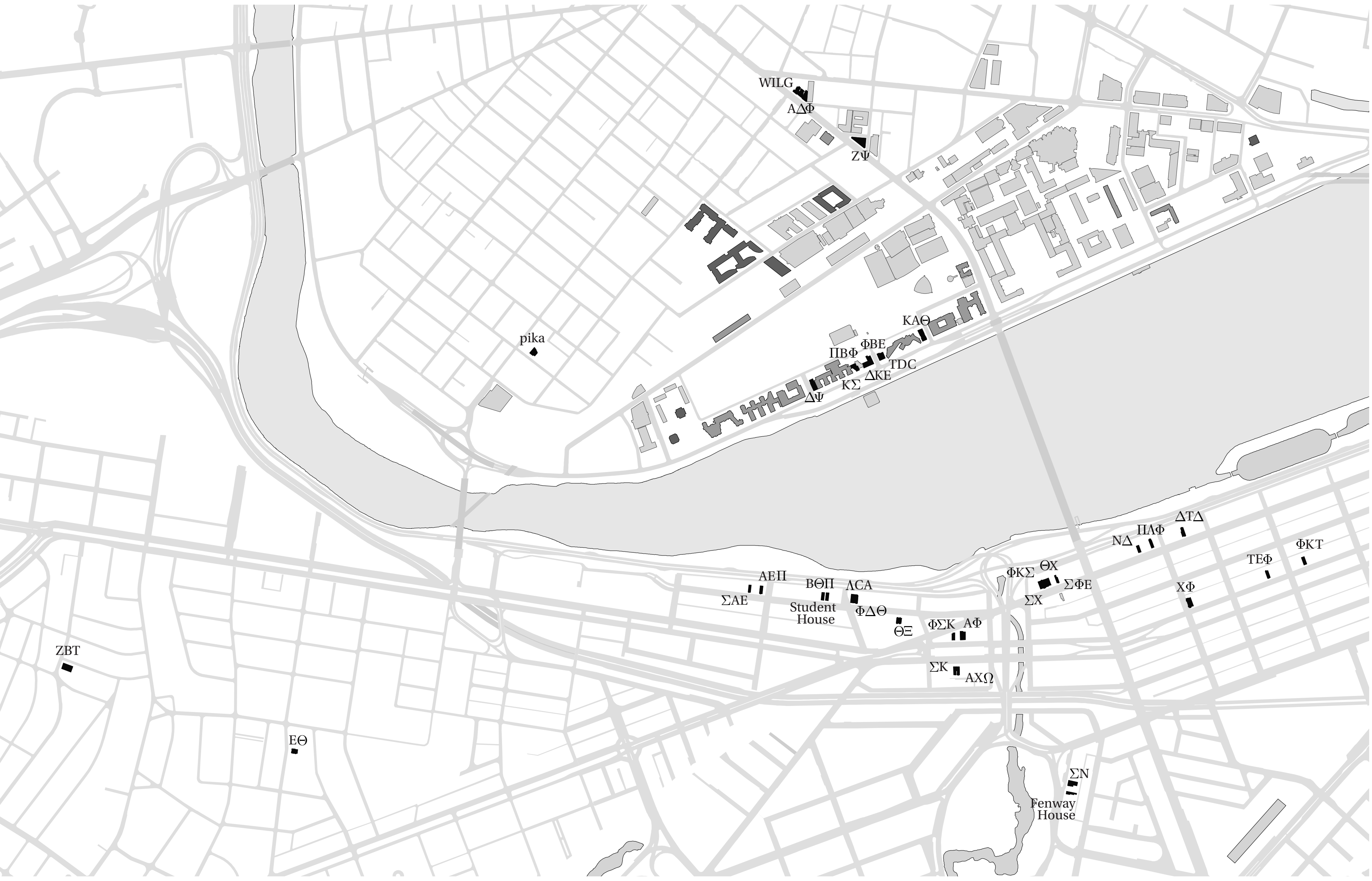
We live by the motto, "Work Hard, Play Hard." Work hard, because we excel in academics, leadership, and service to others. Brothers are committed to academic success and take on leadership roles on campus. Play hard, because we understand that there is more to life than classes and problem sets. Our parties are well known throughout all of Boston, and our brothers enjoy having a wide range of social events, including both large and small parties, sorority mixers, cocktail parties, and formals.

Kappa Sigma

Founded in 1914, the Gamma-Pi Chapter of Kappa Sigma is one of the oldest and well-renowned fraternities on campus. Nationally, we have over three hundred chapters, placing ourselves as one of the largest national fraternities.

Here at MIT, we have won Chapter of the Year four out of the last six years, demonstrating our excellence on campus. Kappa Sigmas are involved in many academic and athletic groups, serving as key contributors to MIT's Var-

Daily Confusion, Page 4



Daily Confusion, Page 3

sity Baseball, Volleyball, Crew, and Soccer teams. We also participate in many Intramural sports.

At the end of the day, we like to wind down in our lounges, watching our favorite shows. We are also known to throw some of the biggest parties at MIT, bringing in nearly a thousand people to our house. Come by, say hello, and meet some of the most motivated and inspirational students that MIT has to offer.

Nu Delta

Trust, Respect, and Brotherhood.

While we're founded upon these three ideals, Nu Delta is made up of much, much more. Nu Delta is a local fraternity affiliated within MIT, keeping a high level of involvement and leadership on campus from sports and extracurriculars to student life and academics. Our four-storied house is located in the beautiful Back Bay area of Boston overlooking the Charles River and the Cambridge area. After spending time chilling on the roof deck, engaging with brothers and alumni while getting to know your school, and dancing 'til you drop at our packed parties, you'll feel right at home with the men of Nu Delta.

We take great pride in our commitment to excellence at MIT and beyond, our support of efforts that benefit the Boston and Cambridge community, and our ever-strengthening bonds of Brotherhood. So, if you're looking for the memorable college experience you've always wanted, come check out the diverse and charismatic personalities at 460 Beacon Street. We'll show you how to make the most out of MIT!

Phi Beta Epsilon

Since our founding in 1890, countless brothers of Phi Beta Epsilon have learned what it means to thrive as students and graduates of MIT. PBE is one of the most diverse houses, with career interests ranging from starting companies, developing cutting edge technologies, and working on Wall Street. What unites us all is the drive to be successful both in and out of the classroom. Brothers lead student groups, compete in varsity sports, and still find time to throw some of the greatest parties in the Boston-Cambridge area.

Our location between Baker House and Burton-Conner gives us one of the best roof deck views on campus, overlooking MIT, the Charles River and the iconic Boston skyline. We're proud of our home at Old 400, where we make some of the strongest connections of our college years. PBE works hard and plays harder, and being a part of this brotherhood is unforgettable.

Phi Delta Theta

Phi Delta Theta takes pride in learning from one another. Not only are we a group of

culturally diverse and well-rounded individuals, but we also believe in a brotherhood that

can adapt, grow from any experience, and thrive in any situation. Filled with devoted scholars, dedicated athletes, and committed musicians and dancers, the MIT Phi Delt House has been able to work together to produce great individuals such as Nobel Prize recipient Adam Riess, Dropbox CEO Drew Houston, and most recently Forbes' "30 Under 30" Chris Haid.

Residing in a brownstone mansion in the middle of the BU campus by Fenway Park is a pretty nice way to live. After a week of hard work on campus we get to come back and enjoy the Esplanade during the day, then party at night. We enjoy putting effort into throwing phenomenal parties and being good hosts to our friends. We're always up for an adventure, and take many outings to go to the movies, paintballing, or to explore Boston in general.

On a national level, Phi Delta Theta is one of the strongest in the fraternity systems, teaching its members about the value of friendship, sound learning, and moral rectitude. With high standards set in place, it's no mystery we've been able to produce great pioneers, leaders, and minds such as Neil Armstrong, Benjamin Harrison, and Lou Gehrig. Phi Delta Theta can push you to become the best version of yourself and take you places you've never been before.

Visit our house (call our Rush Chairs anytime for a ride) and find out just what makes the Phi side of life so damn good.

Phi Kappa Sigma

Established in 1903, Phi Kappa Sigma has a long and storied history here at MIT. Despite the academic rigors of arguably the world's most prestigious technical institution, the brothers of Phi Kappa Sigma have not only endured, but have thrived, finding success both during their time at the Institute and after graduation. We are very proud to be part of such a diverse band of brothers- it's almost a guarantee that someone in the house shares your interests. The brothers of Skullhouse are student group leaders, varsity sportsmen, film directors, chess champions, avid partiers, bloggers, venture-funded startup founders, ice boat sailors, and talented musicians, to name a few. Our members come from as far away as Malaysia and as close as Boston.

Of course, what's a great fraternity without a great home? Our beautiful six-story brownstone has been home to Phi Kaps for over a century, and it truly is an amazing place to live. The great part about living in a house like ours is that there's always someone to hang out with and something to do, whether it be playing piano in our music room, getting a game of pool going in the basement, jamming with other musicians, or just hanging out in someone's room. To unwind from MIT's demanding academics, every week our home is host to great parties which are wonderful opportunities to unwind and socialize with other brothers and our guests.

At Skullhouse, we pride ourselves on providing members with a fraternity experience that exceeds expectations, and our strong alumni network is a testament to the bonds that you form with every Phi Kap, at MIT and across the nation. Joining Phi Kappa Sigma means joining one of the nation's leading fraternal organizations, but it also means joining a group of men who will become a part of your family for the rest of your life. Call our Rush Chairs anytime for a ride over, and come be part of the legendary Skulls!

Phi Kappa Theta

Phi Kappa Theta brothers are some of the most interesting and engaged men at MIT. You can find athletes, entrepreneurs, breakdancers, devoted musicians, poker sharks, and more within the walls of our historic brownstone mansion. Though our backgrounds and interests are diverse we strive to foster an environment of inclusivity. PKTs spend their summers in a variety of ways, from working at companies such as Google, Jane Street Capital, and SpaceX, to traveling across Europe, all while spending time on their hobbies and exercising their ingenuity and creative spirit. United by our shared brotherhood activities, be it exploring Boston, lifting and playing sports, or watching Game of Thrones, we continually strive to exemplify our motto - "give, expecting nothing thereof".

Living in Boston's Back Bay we enjoy our proximity to some of the city's best food and attractions. Our location also allows us to have a thriving social scene consisting of schools from all over the city. Check us out at 229 Commonwealth Ave to see if you have what it takes to be PKT. Need a ride from one of our vans? Call 317-PKT-RIDE.

Phi Sigma Kappa

Phi Sig offers a change of pace from the rigors of MIT. We are made up of varsity athletes, musicians, scholars, campus leaders and the most driven students the Institute has to offer. Nowhere else will you find sports captains of nationally competitive sports teams, from crew to lacrosse, rubbing elbows with CERN researchers, or start-up entrepreneurs sharing a roof with leaders of clubs from Camp Kesem to Dance Troupe. Located in the heart of Kenmore Square since 1902, Phi Sig's house is a pillar of the college social scene in Boston. With instant access to the T, Saferide, and numerous fine dining options, coupled with a convenient location next to Fenway, Phi Sig offers a great mix of the MIT and Boston experience.

The brothers of Phi Sig spend their summers developing technologies at Facebook and Apple, flying planes around the globe, and doing non-profit work in Africa. Our alumni number among Truman Scholars, Schwarzman Scholars and Thiel Fellows. They have gone on to start innovative businesses, study at top graduate schools and lead major industries. Check us out to meet some the Institute's brightest, friendliest, and most interesting guys.

Pi Lambda Phi

"Not four years but a lifetime" is the motto we live by at Pi Lambda Phi. We strive to form strong, meaningful friendships that last long after we graduate MIT.

As the first non-sectarian fraternity, Pi Lambda Phi welcomes men of all creeds. Amongst us you'll find entrepreneurs, EMTs, photographers, hip hop dancers, varsity athletes, and video game enthusiasts. While our interests are diverse, we all share a strong drive for excellence and bond at the numerous events we hold regularly: study breaks, pickup sport games, BBQs, parties, retreats, mixers, formals, and more.

We live in a historic brownstone house on Beacon Street situated in the beautiful neighborhood of Back Bay, just a short walk from campus. Our convenient location allows us to enjoy all the great things Boston has to offer, while our house's many amenities include a brother-built arcade cabinet, full-size pool table, and roof deck featuring a perfect view of the Charles River.

We invite you to come by and hang out with us! Call 401-AT-PILAM for a ride.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Boasting over 200 active chapters, Sigma Alpha Epsilon is the largest fraternity in North America. Since our chapter's recolonization seven years ago, we have grown into one of the most diverse fraternities on campus. From South Africa to North Dakota, our brothers hail from a multitude of countries and states, with each member bringing something unique to our brotherhood. We currently have brothers excelling in 16 different majors while also juggling a variety of extracurriculars. Our brothers' on-campus involvement ranges from the Varsity Crew Team to the MIT Hyperloop Team. While we pride ourselves on our laid back culture, we take all of our endeavors very seriously. Through our philanthropy events, intramural sports teams, and our parties, we strive to be the very best we can be.

Our house on Bay State Road is located in the heart of Boston University's campus and is a stone's throw from the Esplanade, Fenway Park, and Kenmore Square. Our prime location makes exploring Boston that much easier.

Above all else we strive to be true to ourselves and true to each other every damn day.

Sigma Chi

Besides being one of the largest international fraternities in North America, Sigma Chi has a long history of excellence at MIT. Founded in 1882, the Alpha Theta chapter is the oldest continuous Fraternity at MIT with one of the oldest houses as well. With over 125 pledge classes that have gone through Alpha Theta, our alumni are found in all parts of the world. Our diverse brotherhood, drawing members from across the United States and abroad, excels in athletics, academics, and philanthropy. Dominating on the sports field and in the classroom, we Sigma Chis are always striving to succeed. We are looking for well-rounded, enthusiastic, and solid individuals like you to be an integral part of our brotherhood and to share the great Sigma Chi experience. As for philanthropic events, Sigma Chi's annual Derby Days raises thousands of dollars for the Huntsman Cancer Institute every year. The brothers of Sigma Chi look forward to meeting the young men of the MIT Class of 2020 at our newly renovated, five story brownstone located in the Back Bay of Boston.

Sigma Nu

Welcome to Sigma Nu! Since 1995, Sigma Nu has been home to a highly motivated group of undergrads from all corners of the earth. Located at 28 Fenway, our 19th century five story mansion is at the center of Boston's social scene and our parties attract students from all across the land, spanning from MIT to BU and Northeastern to Wellesley. Brothers also play an active role on campus including research opportunities, nonprofit organizations like Camp Kesem, technology driven groups like Tech-X, and our IM basketball team is a force to be reckoned with, consistently making it to the finals every year.

With a plethora of majors in the house, brothers at Sigma Nu are driven to succeed at the highest academic level regardless of the area of study. With hard work comes success; brothers intern at companies such as NASA, Intel, and L'oreal, while alumni have gone on to work at premier companies such as Snapchat, Facebook, and Microsoft, or have gone on to pursue PhD's in various fields.

In addition to well-rounded students, you'll also find brothers with a wide range of passions, including film and music, athletics and weightlifting, poker and bartending, Catan and Smash, just to name a few. Through these interests, we create meaningful and lasting relationships, encouraging brothers to better themselves through their passions and enabling them to do so. Stop by and meet the brotherhood!

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Virtue, Diligence and Brotherly Love. These are the cardinal principles of Sigma Phi Epsilon which every SigEp is challenged to uphold and live. These values are the foundation for our mission to build balanced leaders for the world. In addition they push our members to gain deep knowledge not only about their academic interests, but also about each other, the world around them, the amazing MIT community, and themselves.

To accomplish this SigEp has the Balanced Man Program, a four year member development program that aims to help brothers achieve a Sound Mind, Sound Body and Healthy Spirit while forming bonds that will last a lifetime. We are a non-pledging fraternity, so from the moment you join you become a brother in our community, with all of the privileges and responsibilities that entails.

In our personal lives, we try to live by the words ``The opposite of war isn't peace... It's creation!", so whether you like acapella, dancing, talking about your home, forming startups, building lasers, playing music or simply gaming, there will be a brother to do it with you. If your interests are beyond what we know, then we would love to come along as you explore them.

So come to our home at 518 Beacon Street, sit in our giant lawn chair, learn about who we are, and hang out with the brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Tau Epsilon Phi / Xi Fellowship

Tired of the blandness of the dorms? Want something different? How about a co-ed fraternity house? You have experienced but the tip of the iceberg until you taste the great wild world that lies just ex loco parentis. The rules we follow at tEp are the rules we choose for ourselves. It's a lot of responsibility to govern yourself, but hell, you're an adult-- we're sure you can handle it.

tEp is an amazing place filled with some of the most inventive and creative people at MIT, and it is a place where standard operating procedure is to be working on 22 projects at a time, all of them totally rockin'. It's a great, creative, and fun environment where nothing seems impossible, where founding your own company or discovering a new planet both seem equally within your reach. Check out our info page to see some of the two-hundred and twenty two great things that tEps have done.

Drop by tEp and you might not want to leave. Meat the brothers, have a grape soder, crash on the hanging couch, and forget about whatever you should've already done. tEp is many things to many people, but for all who live here it's first and foremost a home - a home that doubles as our culinary research lab, a covert operations center, an artistic studio, and a philosophical playground. It's not right for everyone -- nothing is. Some, though, find a family where they can thrive and grow as never before.

253 Commonwealth Ave. houses both Xi Fellowship and the Xi Chapter of Tau Epsilon Phi, but we're all tEps! Come see us if you're confused.

Theta Chi

We at Theta Chi believe that tradition is meant to evolve. From our beginning over a hundred years ago, Theta Chi culture has certainly evolved quite a lot! The fraternity experience should not be about antiquated rituals, but rather making long-lasting friendships, and helping each other fulfill our ambitions.

We are proud of our individual and house accomplishments that make us a diverse and wonderful community. Theta Chis can be found on the Formula SAE race team, in the ranks of the MIT ROTC program, in the MIT Crew boathouse, and even among the editors of the Tech. The winners of the IFC's 2016 Best Scholarship Award, Theta Chis continue to show that we are committed to excellence. We believe a strong and cohesive living community is essential for personal growth and provides an invaluable opportunity to discover new passions and perspectives.

The brothers of Theta Chi recognize that a rewarding college experience involves a vibrant social life. We distinguish ourselves by dropping some of the jankiest beats in the college party scene and hosting some of the most creatively themed social events. With brothers and friends hailing from all over campus, our house facilitates connections between seemingly disparate social circles within MIT. Located in the heart of Boston's Back Bay and the center of collegiate city life, we're proud to count friends among the students of our neighboring universities, not only the MIT community.

We're looking for guys who strive to be the best version of themselves they can be, whether that involves going on to create new gadgets at Apple, funding your own multi-million start-up, or developing your skills in the jazz guitar. We look forward to meeting you.

Theta Delta Chi

Theta Delta Chi is the animated family each of us got to choose. Our brothers have fascinatingly diverse interests and backgrounds, and by celebrating our differences, we learn and grow as a whole. Thanks to our melting pot, living here is an adventure filled with physics experiments, dancing, homemade electric vehicles, software projects, late night philosophical discussions, improv comedy, impromptu murals and jam sessions. TDC is about expressing yourself, exploring your wildest ambitions, and adding anything that excites you to our family. Our combination of personalities serves as inspiration and the best support-network anyone could ever ask for.

With a wonderful 5-story mansion on campus, beautiful views of the Boston Skyline over the Charles River, and people we love in every room, we are lucky to call 372 Memorial Drive our home. Every brother that lives in the house leaves their own mark, building up a house rich with history. From building walls and lofts to creating high art, each brother can tinker away and create their dream space. It's one of the wonderful perks of owning our own house and land. We've been able to build something we're proud of. Drop by and see what we're all about. We have lots of stories to share.

Welcome to our community; we love it here, and we hope you will too.

Theta Xi

Founded in 1885, the Delta Chapter of Theta Xi is one of the oldest and most well-established fraternities on campus. We have strong commitment to excellence both inside of the classroom and out, and we take great pride in our unrivaled diversity: among us you will find varsity athletes, 5.0 students, musicians, and artists from all across the globe. Wandering around campus on a given evening, you can find Theta Xis playing intramural soccer, breaking it down at a Dance Troupe show, or hosting their own radio show. At the house, you might see us watching Game of Thrones or various sports in the common space --- for the more competitive set, there are often brothers playing pool or Super Smash Bros on the TV. Theta Xis are also committed to community service, organizing events such as our annual Quarter Mile fundraiser, and to leadership within student government and cultural clubs. And when it's all over, we still know how to have a good time throwing some of the biggest and best events at MIT.

We live in two connected brownstone homes, complete with a beautiful roofdeck and ideally situated on the historic Bay State Road behind Kenmore Square and Fenway Park. Our private chef serves us gourmet meals year round, and some of Boston's best dining and entertainment lie just around the corner.

Come check us out at 64 Bay State Rd. and see for yourself what makes Theta Xis the most interesting and fun guys on campus.

Zeta Beta Tau

Welcome to ZBT! We are located in Brookline, a tree-lined residential area of Boston. Brothers can walk, bike, drive, or ride our 15-passenger van to MIT's campus. The house is within a five-minute walk from basketball and tennis courts, several public parks, numerous restaurants, and a 24-hour supermarket. Our proximity to Fenway Park and Coolidge Corner guarantees that there is always something fun to do.

ZBT is one of MIT's only non-pledging fraternities. This means that as soon as you accept your bid, you are made a full brother. Freshmen are never asked to fulfill any requirements that are not demanded of the brotherhood at large. At ZBT, you are always a brother, never a pledge.

The brothers at ZBT are dedicated to excellence. We pride ourselves on our diversity, our integrity, and our drive. A Zebe is committed to finding his passions, pursuing them, and supporting his brothers on their own journeys. He does not balk at taking the hard road in order to do the right thing, and is confident that no matter where he treads, his brothers will be right beside him.

Zeta Psi

Zeta Psi is not your average fraternity. If you're a square, we suggest you flip back in the book a bit. At Rho Alpha chapter, our diversity is part of what makes our fraternity such an interesting place to live. Our brothers are the core of Orientation program, the anchors of Varsity Crew, Football, Lacrosse, and Track, the heart of Camp Kesem, and leaders of countless other student organizations, including the IFC. We also have practical entrepreneurs, active do-it-yourselfers, and thrill-seeking adventurers within our midst. But excellence does not stop at graduation, brothers of Zeta Psi go on to be heads of companies and leaders in their communities.

Our house, which takes up an entire block, is located just five minutes from main campus and only ten minutes from bustling Central Square, and has a pool table, bar, home theater, weight room, woodshop, and full sized professional kitchen. Zeta Psi is a prime place to chill by day, and with a massive house and even more massive parties, Zeta Psi is the place to rage by night. At Zeta Psi, we're serious about life, we're serious about having fun, and we're serious about not taking ourselves too seriously. So if living in a great house full of great people sounds like a great time to you, stop by Zeta Psi for rush and see what we're all about.

Descriptions from Fraternity Rush chairs, provided by the IFC

Check out rush.mit.edu for more information on Fraternity Rush!

Check out http://panhel.mit.edu/recruitment/ for information on Sorority Recruitment!

You could be here

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2016-2017 will be last year for program

GECD cites other study abroad opportunities in the United Kingdom

CME, from Page 1

The group for this year’s program, which will be the last, involves 21 students Cambridge and 19 MIT students.

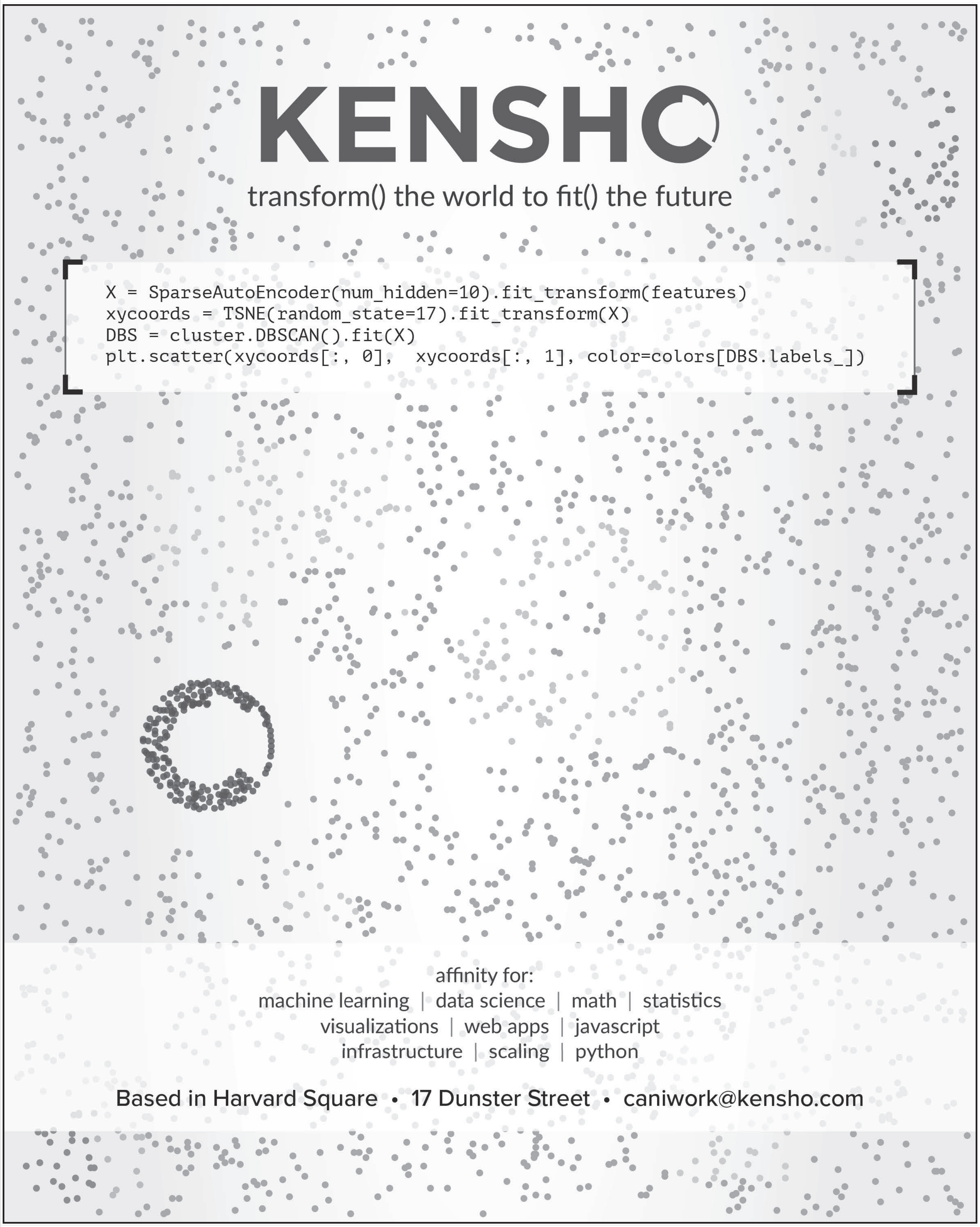
While study abroad is not as popular at MIT as it is in other universities of comparable caliber, participation at MIT still exceeds the national average for STEM colleges – 3% of the student population. General participation in global opportunities, however, is highly and increasingly popular at MIT: preliminary results from the 2016 graduate survey indicates that around 50% of the class of 2016 had participated in at least one MIT global program. This is up 5% from the previous year, and twice the rate in 2007.

Parker attributes this increase in part to an alumni gift from the Victor Fung Foundation dedicated to supporting global opportunities, as well as increased awareness of international issues.

GECD emphasized that “there are still opportunities for MIT students in the UK,” including UROP exchanges with the Imperial College of London. And the department hopes to find a replacement for the CME. “We will be actively looking for what will be the best fit,” said Hedderick.

“There was a larger initiative between Cambridge and MIT that spawned [the CME],” added Parker. “It’s an important relationship and we don’t want to let go of that.”

For students interested in going global, the GECD’s Go Global fair will take place on September 13.



KENSHO

transform() the world to fit() the future

```
X = SparseAutoEncoder(num_hidden=10).fit_transform(features)
xycoords = TSNE(random_state=17).fit_transform(X)
DBS = cluster.DBSCAN().fit(X)
plt.scatter(xycoords[:, 0],  xycoords[:, 1], color=colors[DBS.labels_])
```

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BOOK REVIEW

Harry Potter, Book Seven and Three-Quarters

An eloquent script — if not the story we wanted

★★★★☆

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child

Script by Jack Thorne

Released July 31, 2016

By Vivian Zhong

Let me preface this by saying that I enjoyed Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, and having only read the script, I imagine that everything must be even more magical on stage.

But as a hopelessly besotted Harry Potter fan, I have two biases: I was bound to love the book regardless, simply because it is Harry Potter; however, at the same time, I cannot refrain from being highly critical, because the characters are so indelibly etched into my mind that any slight deviance will ring false. To a certain extent, The Cursed Child is a work of fanfiction — albeit an officially sanctioned one.

The main premise of the play is simple, effective, and beautifully portrayed throughout both acts: Harry's son, Albus Severus Potter, feels disconnected from his father and resents being the son of the Boy Who Lived. In an effort to fix the perceived mistakes of his father, he goes on a journey with an unexpected (by the other characters, if not by the fandom) friend. The play begins (coincidentally?) in the year 2016, repeating and picking up from the "Nineteen Years Later" epilogue of Book 7, and follows Albus through his Hogwarts initiation up to his fourth year.

The Cursed Child is well worth the trip to your local Muggle Flourish and Blott's, but don't be surprised if you don't get what you expect. The new play is not quite a stand-alone sequel, but it's not truly the eighth book of the series either, despite being advertised as such.

It almost feels unfair to compare the play to the classic books: the writing medium is different, the main cast is different, and while J.K. Rowling was involved with The Cursed Child's production, she was not its playwright. But I would say the script almost invites comparison by revisiting Harry Potter history in very direct ways. It is this aspect that reveals sometimes glaring discrepancies in characterization that disrupt the otherwise flowing and enrapturing dialogue.

For me, the driving force of the play was the exploration of personal relationships, more so than the rather uninspired plot. Most of these are more or less focused around Albus, but there are, for example, intimate and emotionally-charged scenes dedicated to Harry and (portrait-form) Dumbledore. This mix of character interactions fluidly brought to life in the lines of the script, made me even hungrier for a live performance.

The prose is naturally limited to short scene descriptions, but it still yields many lines of mood-setting genius that made me temporarily grateful to be reading, rather than watching, the play. For example, the following excerpt:

"There's a silence. A perfect, profound silence. One that sits low, twists a bit, and has damage within it."

Unlike the books, in which the title always reveals its significance and meaning quite early on in the book, the "Cursed Child" isn't ever definitively defined, though it is a constant theme in the play's story. This ambiguity works well because the play, again unlike the books, has no single protagonist. As one might expect, Harry, while still an integral character, is no longer the main character.

You've probably already heard other reviews of the play. It's striking to me that nearly all the negative reviews are for the script alone; most theater-goers are positively raving about the play. While it's understandable that characters may come off as more sympathetic on stage than on paper, and that the sheer magnificence of seeing magic in real life can balance out flaws of the story, I'm not sure what the live performance managed to do to make the much-derided plot more palatable for audiences.

If you're a Harry Potter fan, you should read (or watch, if you have the immense fortune to do so) the play. Approach it with an open mind: don't let headcanons or fanfictions that have sprouted in the years since Book 7 prevent you from enjoying the future that Jack Thorne wrote and that J.K. Rowling approved. Unfortunately, if you are a fan, you'll definitely notice some continuity problems that I am very surprised Rowling didn't point out to Thorne.

If you're not (yet) a Harry Potter fan, you should still read (or watch) the play. The writing style, characters, and theme are sufficiently distinct from the book series that anyone previously turned off might find themselves now happily immersed in the Wizarding world.

Is The Cursed Child what I hoped for in my dream of dreams? No, but I didn't expect it to be; and as Dumbledore wisely said, it does not do to dwell on dreams. I accept it as canon and look forward to more stories of the Wizarding future.

O.W.L. grade: Acceptable, with special permission to continue onto N.E.W.T. levels.

ALBUM REVIEW

Blonde or Blonde on Blonde?

Frank Ocean's comeback album showcases his excellent songwriting and singing abilities

★★★★☆

Blonde

Frank Ocean

Independent Release

August 28, 2016

By Ryan Hays

Pop music's favorite archetype is the braggadocious extrovert, the shameless self-promoter that wastes more words talking about their art than they do actually singing. They are the social (media) butterflies that pay tens of thousands dollars for floor seats to an NBA Finals game and could give two shits about Steph Curry's jump shot. They sell-out shows worldwide, star in their own reality TV show, date another celebrity of equal magnitude, and maybe even start their own fashion line to really cash in on their personal branding. Pop artists let the world know that they exist — there is Kanye, Beyonce, and Justin Bieber. Then, there is Frank Ocean.

In 2012, Frank Ocean gave the world Channel Orange. It was lauded as a masterpiece, a landmark R&B album whose eclecticism contained discussions of race, drug abuse, sexuality, religion and more with just a few flicks of unforgettable falsetto. To put it simply, Channel Orange was diverse, interesting, and truly unique. Even more intriguing than the music was the artist who created it — Ocean is a former Katrina refugee associated with the chronically homophobic hip-hop collective Odd Future while himself being openly bisexual. He became the prodigy with the beautiful voice and without Twitter. After Channel Orange, the music critics' most beloved recluse went into hibernation for four long years.

Thankfully, Frank Ocean was not, as he once sang, completely "lost in the heat of it all". After years of anticipation, Ocean released his second commercial album titled Blonde. It is sparse, acoustic, and more mature than his previous work. Ocean has traded in the pounding, orchestrated synths found in his earlier songs such as "Pyramids" for deep, mellow bass and guitars washed-out with reverb. In songs such as "Solo," Frank Ocean accentuates his ability as a singer and showcases his more disciplined songwriting. Here, he meanders over a church organ while rapping and singing about the personal experiences of cheap sex, drug use, and the loneliness caused by the incompatibility of the two.

In "Ivy," Ocean performs a ballad detailing the beauty of a past relationship and the nostalgia accompanied with its failure. Although he chooses to strip down the instrumentation, Ocean doesn't lose focus when perfecting the details. Instead, his song composition better fuses together the melody and the lyrics, making the album incredibly personal while giving us insight into his own cocoon. He reimagines himself as the person sitting next to us, playing skeletal piano under a robust voice, and crying out the emotions that we often feel but can never correctly put into words.

Still, Frank Ocean's world is as blurry and indecisive as the character we paint him to be. "White Ferrari" devolves from an intoxicating joyride with his partner in the passenger seat to a look at the relationship as one without satisfaction. "Seigfried" is an atmospheric and beautifully haunting look into Ocean's complicated sexuality. "Godspeed" is a moving gospel and easily one of Ocean's most impressive vocal performances to date — however, it is quickly followed by "Futura Free," where Ocean dials back his expressive singing to a monologue of droning autotune and macho hip-hop tropes. The same man that rejects hedonism in the opening track "Nikes" also declares that "I don't cut bitches no more/But your bitch my exception/Come get her outta my four door/I only got one four door." The same artist who chases sobriety also says that he wants to break his year-long smoking abstinence. Frank Ocean lives on the boundary between different versions of himself, and he is as honest with his transgressions as he is with his accomplishments. He peels back his stories to collections of details and series of contradictions. This is what makes Blonde so human — and so great.

To be honest, Blonde is not what I expected it to be, or even what I hoped for. After four years working away from the spotlight, I anticipated a grandiose effort with diverse sounds, layers of synergistic texture, and a more focused vision. Instead, Frank Ocean has produced an album that is withdrawn at the first listen, but novel and emotional when you ditch your preconceptions. Blonde is more meaningful than any other commercial release this year, and Frank Ocean has further cemented his worth as a masterful singer-songwriter.

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RESTAURANT REVIEW

Restaurant roundup

A sampling of appetizing eateries around campus

Parts of this article were first published on the author's blog, Spilling the Beans.

For the past three years, I've been reviewing Boston-area restaurants on my food blog, Spilling the Beans. I've put together a list of a few restaurants that I'd recommend in and around Cambridge and Boston, all of which are within walking distance or a reasonable Uber ride.

Good for: When you're craving meat the KBBQ way

Koreana (Central Square)

Korean, $$
Mon - Thu: 11:30 am – 10:30 pm
Fri - Sat: 11:30 am – 12:00 am
Sun: 11:30 am – 10:30 pm
158 Prospect St
Cambridge, MA 02139

If you're craving some Korean BBQ, where delicious cuts of meat are cooked in front of your eyes on a circular grill, take a stroll down to Koreana in Central Square. You'll get a complete variety of appetizers to start, and for the BBQ part, I would recommend the Galbi, which is prime beef short ribs marinated in Korean soy sauce and sesame oil. The waitress grills the beef at the table, checking up on it every few minutes until it's tenderly cooked. This was my favorite part of the meal — the beef was incredibly tender, and the marinade had a sweet and savory flavor.

TARA LEE—THE TECH

Korean BBQ from Koreana in Central Square.

TARA LEE—THE TECH

"Alternative" ice cream from FoMu in Allston.

Good for: Delicious ice cream when you get sick of Tosci's

FoMu (Allston)

Ice Cream, $
Daily: 11:00 am - 11:00 pm
481 Cambridge St
Allston, MA 02134

Toscanini's is delicious — don't get me wrong — but sometimes, it's time for a change. FoMu serves "alternative ice cream," meaning that the ice cream is coconut-based, vegan, organic, dairy free, gluten free, and kosher. Everything is sweetened with unrefined organic cane sugar or agave. The ice cream isn't bland by any means, and you can taste the coconut base in every flavor. My friend, Cathy, tried a scoop of PB Mudslide ice cream. "For being vegan, it was surprisingly creamy and similar to 'real' ice cream," she explained. "The coconut flavor was relatively subtle, while the peanut butter flavor was very prominent."

Good for: Really really good fries!

Saus (North End)

Belgian, $
Sun: 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Mon-Wed: 11:30 am –10:00 pm
Thu: 11:30 am – 12:00 am
Fri: 11:30 am – 2:00 am
Sat: 12:00 pm – 2:00 am
33 Union St
Boston, MA 02108

Tucked away by the North End, Saus is a Belgian food shop known for its fries and sauces (go figure). The atmosphere is casual — customers order food at the counter, and the food comes in trays, baskets, and to-go boxes. Indeed, the fries are delicious, and if you go, you need to try them with a bunch of different sauces. Crisp, well-seasoned, and not too oily, they were everything fries should be. When I went with some friends, we ordered the Truffle Ketchup (white truffle oil, housemade ketchup) and Vampire Slayer (roasted garlic, roasted garlic oil, housemade mayo) dipping sauces to go with our fries. While the Vampire Slayer was a bit too thick and garlic-y for my liking, the Truffle Ketchup sauce was divine. "If I ever go back, I'll definitely just be getting fries and a ton of sauces." A well said statement.

TARA LEE—THE TECH

Fries, BBQ One Sandwich (left), Speciaal Frik (right) from Saus in the North End.

TARA LEE—THE TECH

T-Rex sandwich on a pretzel bagel from Bagelsaurus in Porter Square.

Good for: A delicious bagel breakfast sandwich!

Bagelsaurus (Porter Square)

Bagels, $
Sat-Sun: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Tue-Fri: 7:00 am - 3:00 pm
1796 Massachusetts Ave
Cambridge, MA 02140

Craving a gooey egg sandwich? A crunchy bagel with gooey peanut butter and bananas inside? In that case, I'd take the T over to Porter Square and check out Bagelsaurus. They open until their bagels run out, and although you can stick with a classic bagel and cream cheese combination, they also have lots of different bagel sandwiches to choose from. When I went with my friend Elizabeth, she got the the T-Rex sandwich on a pretzel bagel, which came with banana, almond butter, honey, and bacon. I took a bite of hers, and it was amazing. "I really enjoyed my sandwich. Banana, nut butter, and bacon is an awesome combination of heartiness and saltiness," she said.

Good for: A trendy, family-style dinner (with family?)

Tiger Mama (Fenway)

Asian Fusion, $$$
Sun-Thu: 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Fri-Sat: 5:00 pm - 11:00pm
1363 Boylston St
Boston, MA 02215

Dimly lit with neon light signs, wooden furniture, and loud music, Tiger Mama is a nice escape to the Fenway area to feel a little fancy, and splurge a bit on their small plates. It's encouraged that the table shares family-style, and their dishes range from $8 to $18. My favorite of the night was the Short Rib Redang curry, which we were encouraged to order a side of coconut sticky rice to sop up the curry broth. The sweet, aromatic coconut rice paired amazingly with the short rib curry, resulting in the ultimate sweet and savory duo. The short ribs were beautifully tender, and the curry was bursting with flavor.

TARA LEE—THE TECH

Short Rib Redang curry from Tiger Mama in Fenway.

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Say Hello! Visit us during our events in the coming weeks:

Sept. 2 **Activities Midway**
Johnson Ice Rink
2:30-4:30 p.m.

Sept. 7 **Open Issue Night**
The Tech Office*
6:00 p.m-TBD

Sept. 2 **Open House and Trivia Night**
The Tech Office*
7:00-10:00 p.m.

Sept. 7 **Open Issue Night**
The Tech Office*
6:00 p.m-TBD

MOVIE REVIEW

Kubo and the Two Strings strikes a wonderfully balanced note

Laika's fourth film finds the perfect mix of eerie and light hearted

By Christopher Wang
STAFF WRITER

After three feature films — Coraline, ParaNorman, and The Boxtrolls — the stop-motion wizards at Laika have had ample time to experiment with their trademark blend of creepy and comedy. Although each of these past projects received critical praise (all Academy-nominated) each one seemed to struggle with the balance between creepy and goofy. In their most recent film, Kubo and the Two Strings, Laika and their distinctive style really come into their own. Amidst a lavishly crafted backdrop, Kubo avoids going overboard on both the horror and the ham to deliver a visually unique epic.

The titular character, a young boy named Kubo (Art Parkinson), lives in hiding from the Moon King (Ralph Fiennes) — the malevolent immortal who stole the infant Kubo's eye. With the magical ability to bring his origami to life, Kubo spends his days performing for villagers (including George Takei and Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa). One night, his past catches up with him and he must flee the village with Monkey (Charlize Theron), his no-nonsense guardian. Pursued by the Twin Sisters (Rooney Mara), he sets out on a quest to find a suit of magical armor — his only hope for safety. Along the way, he befriends and is joined by a giant beetle (Matthew McConaughey) — an empty-headed but kind-hearted warrior.

In terms of structure, Kubo doesn't stray far from the stock adventure/quest format. Its tone, however, is a shade darker than the usual children's fare. In terms of storytelling, Kubo is closer in content to a Grimm brothers' fairy tale than to a Pixar sequel. (When was the last time a kid's movie featured eye-thievery?) Throughout the movie, the story often takes a turn for the darker, where another children's film might have held back. While these twists make for a novel experience, it also means that the ending leaned towards the bitter side of bitter-sweet.

Kubo's real weakness is pacing. The film yanks the audience from action scene to cool down at high speed and with little transition. Bits of dialogue which should have felt spontaneous instead come across as wooden or contrived, simply because they were shoehorned in at an awkward point in the action. Some scenes (especially the ending) conclude too quickly, preventing the audience time to absorb much of the emotional impact. These small lapses in pacing give the opening and closing of each scene a hit-or-miss quality.

However, Kubo's 'misses' are slight and the 'hits' are smashing. Excepting the occasional awkwardly timed line, the characters are well written with personalities that play well together. Beetle and Monkey share a few cute, if unoriginal, 'old married couple' moments. And although the transitions between scenes may be rocky, each scene plays out fairly smoothly. Kubo alternates between giving its characters time to develop and throwing them into action. The former scenes are lovely, giving the audience a chance to soak in the carefully crafted claymation universe. And the almost choppy stop-motion imbues the action sequences with a musical rhythm that flows beautifully through the puppets.

At the halfway mark of 2016, Disney and Pixar seemed to have shut out all competition in terms of story-heavy animated features. Thus, it's refreshing to see a third-party contender produce an original tale, which, if not as polished, shines with its own unique visual charm and characters. Kubo is a wonderfully atmospheric experience and deserves praise for exploring both an unconventional storytelling and animation medium.

★★★★☆

Kubo and the Two Strings

Directed by Travis Knight

Starring Art Parkinson, Ralph Fiennes, Charlize Theron, Matthew McConaughey

Rated PG

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MITRugby
rugby.mit.edu | fb.me/mitrugby

MIT vs HBS
Orientation week game
Thursday Sep 8th 7pm
Post-game social event

PRACTICE
Tuesday | Thursday
August to November

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WEATHER

Several tropical cyclone basins become active

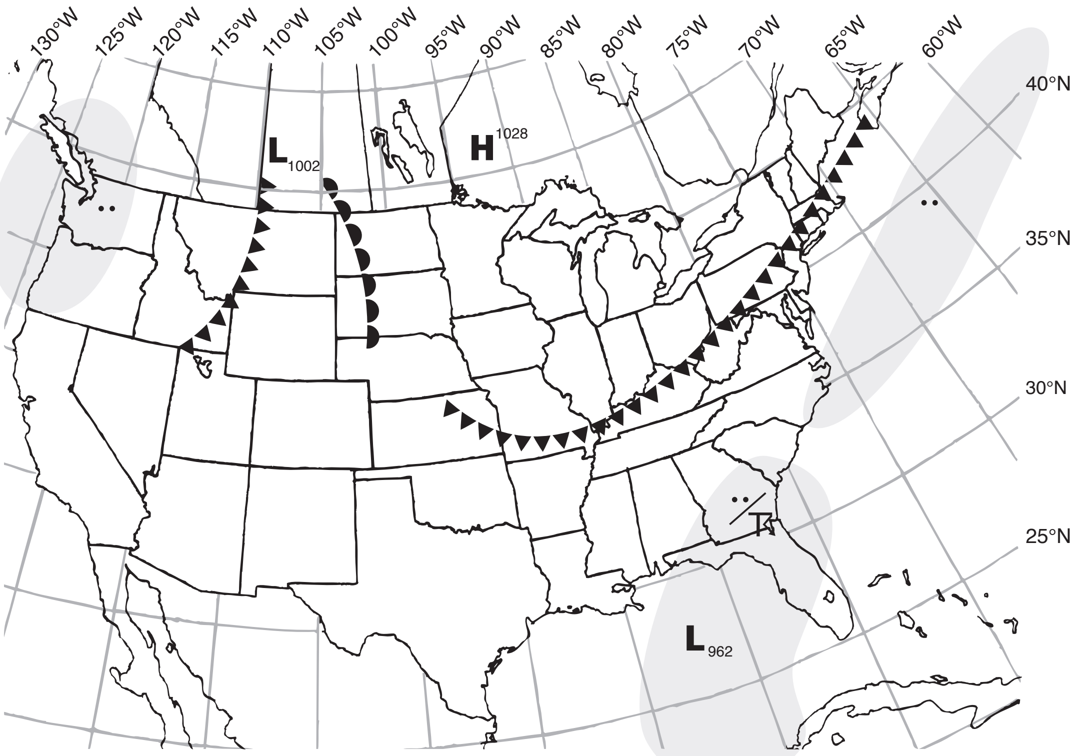
By Costa Christopoulos
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Scattered showers associated with a weak cold front this morning will give way to clearing skies and generally cooler weather for the weekend. By early next week, the effects of tropical storm Hermine will begin to manifest themselves as overcast skies, a chance of rain, and perhaps some gusty winds. Although most models show the storm weakening as it enters the cooler waters of the north Atlantic coast, much uncertainty remains about its track.

The National Hurricane Center is closely monitoring five tropical systems as activity flares up across the Atlantic and East Pacific. Of primary interest, tropical storm Hermine continues to gain strength in the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico. After making landfall around the Florida Panhandle early tomorrow morning, Hermine is expected to continue up the eastern seaboard. Luckily, the system is expected to remain a tropical storm as it traces a path commonly followed by east coast winter storms.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy. High of 77°F (25°C). Winds west at around 5 mph.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Low of 63°F (17°C). Winds north at 5 mph.
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy. High of 74°F (23°C). Winds northeast at 10-15 mph.
Saturday: Partly cloudy. High of 72°F (22°C). Winds east at 5-10 mph.
Sunday: Mostly cloudy. High of 71°F (22°C). Winds east at 10-15 mph.



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, September 1, 2016

Weather Systems	
H	High Pressure
L	Low Pressure
§	Hurricane

Weather Fronts	
▬ ▬ ▬	Trough
◠◠◠◠	Warm Front
▲▲▲▲▲	Cold Front
▲◡▲◡	Stationary Front

Precipitation Symbols	Snow	Rain
Showers	*▽	•▽
Light	*	•
Moderate	**	••
Heavy	⁂	∴

Other Symbols	
≡	Fog
	Thunderstorm
∞	Haze

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and *The Tech*

Solution to Crossword

from page 13

H	E	R	O	C	O	P	S	■	D	O	G	L	E	G
O	R	A	T	O	R	I	O	■	I	N	L	O	V	E
P	A	N	T	R	I	E	S	■	C	O	O	K	E	R
E	T	D	■	S	E	R	A	P	E	■	T	I	N	E
D	O	B	B	I	N	■	D	I	G	I	T	■	■	■
■	■	■	A	C	T	S	■	C	A	N	A	R	D	S
A	C	C	R	A	■	C	H	A	M	E	L	E	O	N
B	R	A	N	■	C	E	A	S	E	■	S	A	G	A
C	O	N	S	T	A	N	T	S	■	S	T	R	E	P
S	P	Y	W	A	R	E	■	O	C	T	O	■	■	■
■	■	■	A	P	A	R	T	■	H	O	P	P	E	R
G	U	L	L	■	M	Y	O	P	I	C	■	A	C	E
I	S	O	L	D	E	■	W	O	R	K	F	L	O	W
B	E	C	O	O	L	■	E	M	P	U	R	P	L	E
B	R	O	W	N	S	■	D	E	S	P	I	S	E	D

Solution to Techdoku

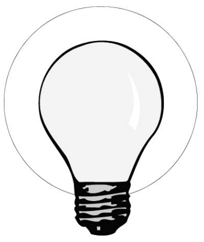
from page 13

5	2	4	6	1	3
3	6	2	4	5	1
1	4	6	2	3	5
4	1	3	5	6	2
2	5	1	3	4	6
6	3	5	1	2	4

Solution to Sudoku

from page 13

3	9	1	4	7	6	2	5	8
2	4	7	9	5	8	1	6	3
8	5	6	3	2	1	7	9	4
4	6	2	5	1	7	3	8	9
5	8	9	2	3	4	6	1	7
7	1	3	6	8	9	4	2	5
6	7	8	1	4	5	9	3	2
9	2	5	7	6	3	8	4	1
1	3	4	8	9	2	5	7	6



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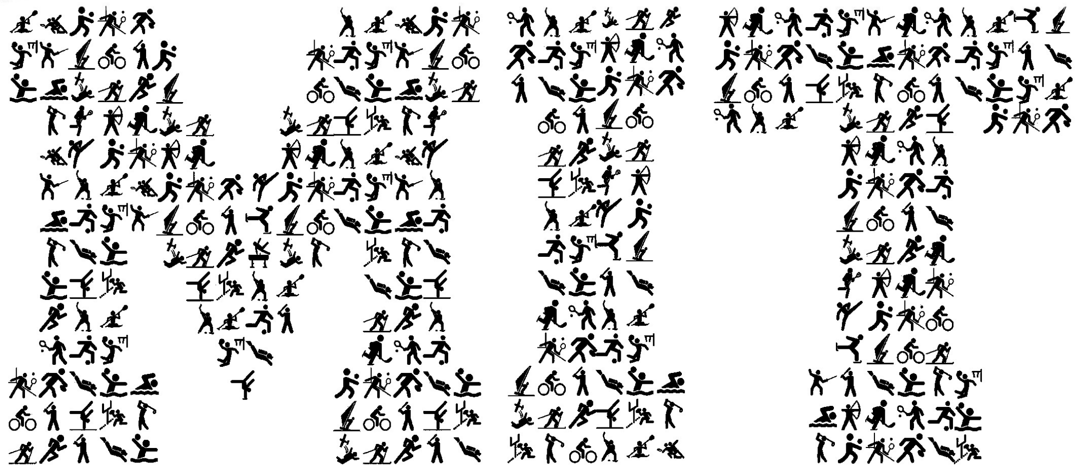

TANG HALL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Graduate Student Council

Graduate Orientation
Olympics 2016
Thursday, Sept 1
2pm - 7pm
(Registration at 1.45pm)
Z-center
contact: tang-government@mit.edu

Policy will protect student groups from discipline

DormCon VP: 'All of the major concerns that we voiced were addressed' in the policy

Policy, from Page 1

"Each case is going to be evaluated on an individual basis and … my primary goal in every situation will be to ensure there is an educational outcome that helps students be safe and well."

If students or student groups do not complete the necessary educational programs, they may be referred to the Office of Student Citizenship and will render them "ineligible for protection from disciplinary consequences."

Depending on the situation, the student group, the students who call for help, and/or the student for whom help is being called may have to complete these programs.

"Generally speaking, if [a help-seeker is] of age and using alcohol responsibly, [they] will not be subject to the policy's educational requirement," Camelio said. If a help seeker is under the influence of alcohol and "acting belligerent or engaging in problematic behavior," or if the help seeker had been using any prohibited substances, "regardless of expressed behavior, [they] will be required to take part in an educational program," Camelio said.

In past cases, students have had negative experiences with processes involving the help-seeking policy since it was unclear to administrators if the help-seeking policy even applied to their situation.

"Now that we have this new policy, we are going to be talking to MIT Police about how to ensure police reports include information about who called for help. This will ensure that we can immediately classify cases appropriately," Camelio said.

Camelio says that it is sometimes difficult to tell right away if a case is help-seeking or not because "the Dean on Call and DSL don't always know from police reports who initiated the call for medical attention."

In these cases, administrators follow up with the students involved to determine if the case should be handled by the Office of Community Development and Substance Abuse (if the help-seeking policy does apply) or by the Office of Student Citizenship (if the help-seeking policy does not apply).

To make the process surrounding the Good Samaritan Amnesty Policy as clear as possible, the CDSA will release a flow chart this fall.

The policy notes that while the Good Samaritan Amnesty Policy can protect students and student organizations from disciplinary actions from MIT, it does not "preclude or prevent" any police action. Furthermore, the policy says that students must call for help if it is clear that a fellow student is in need of medical attention. The policy states that students should contact emergency officials by calling 100 (on campus) or 617-253-1212.

"The call goes to police because the police and EMS are first-responders and are in the best position to provide life-saving help," Camelio said.

If a student has a prohibited-substances related medical emergency and is found selling, manufacturing, or distributing prohibited substances, they are ineligible for protections from disciplinary action as these are seen as "egregious violations" of MIT policy. However, in these cases, students are still required to call for help if there is a medical emergency.

"In cases where there have been other violations of Institute policy, calling for assistance for an individual in need of help may be considered a mitigating factor in any disciplinary process arising out of such violations (and failure to seek assistance may be considered an aggravating factor in any such disciplinary process)," the policy states.

"I also think it's important for students to understand that MIT Police want to keep our community safe by working with students, and they believe policing is about education just as much as it's about enforcement. We worked closely with them while developing the new Good Samaritan Policy and they understand the importance of lowering barriers to help-seeking for students," Camelio said.

Student leaders, who worked with administrators to update the policy, have responded positively.

"I believe that the policy has been significantly revised for the better and is now one of the more progressive Good Samaritan Policies in the country," Interfraternity Council President David Dellal '17 told The Tech in an email.

"Don Camelio and Suzy [Nelson] were both very responsive to our feedback. All of the major concerns that we voiced were addressed," DormCon Vice President Yuge Ji '18 told The Tech in an email.

"The new policy has addressed many concerns that students have previously voiced for why they may be hesitant to call," Dellal said.

One concern students had about the old policy was that it considered spotting (trip sitting) and the social sharing of drugs to be an egregious violation of Institute policy and punishable by sanctions. Camelio said that these concerns "created strong barriers to help-seeking in medical emergencies." In order to reduce barriers and respond to students' concerns, the updated policy "does not automatically exclude spotting or social sharing from the policy's protections," said Camelio.

"We hope that students have no reservations about using the Good Samaritan policy. Calling for help is always the best option and the updated policy makes that clear," Ji added.

Panhel President Caitlyn Mason '17 echoed these sentiments, saying that she thinks this new policy "removes lingering confusion" about MIT's help-seeking policy and anticipates that it will help students feel empowered to call for help when help is needed.

"I believe that students will be enthusiastic to see that their voices have been heard and that the new policy further prioritizes student health and safety over disciplinary action," Dellal said.

VYP 2016
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INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR SOCIAL CHALLENGES
Sept. 10th | 9am-5pm | MIT 10-250
** Register at https://goo.gl/BI2NPe **
Featuring
Thao Nguyen Griffiths - Country Director at Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation
Thao Ly Bui Tran - Sr. Associate at Recontres Du Vietnam
Mike Ritz - Executive Director at Leadership Rhode Island
Abhishek Syal - Senior Research Analyst at EMC

Friends Meeting at Cambridge Invites You to the Adventure of Quaker Worship
10:30am & 5pm Sunday • 8:30–10am Wednesday

Line Drawing: Lucy Sikes

❖ We are a community that seeks to pray seriously and tries to avoid dogma and ritual. We have no creed.
❖ Sometimes our deepest meetings for worship take place completely in silence. Most often three to six messages are offered in the course of roughly one hour of worship together.
❖ Our worship is not programmed and is not led by a minister. We aspire to be led only by the promptings of the Spirit in our hearts and minds.
Quakerism has deep roots in Christianity. Today, active Friends Meeting participants include people from many religious traditions: Christianity, Universalism, Non-theism, Buddhism, Judaism, etc. Many LGBTQ folks participate in our community.
All are welcome in a sincere search for spiritual depth
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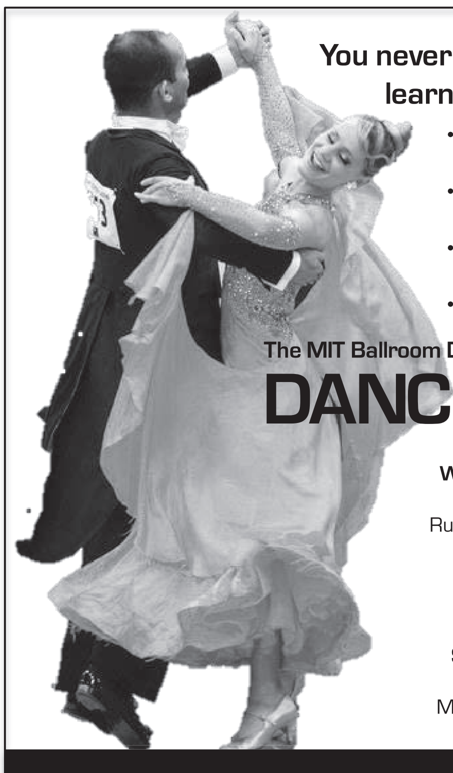

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• Take free lessons and learn about MIT BDT
• All are welcome!
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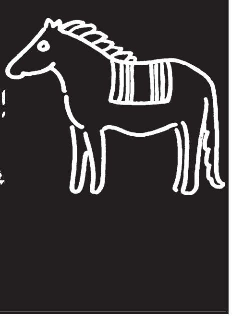
Wednesday, September 7
7:00 pm @ Lobby 13
Rumba, Swing & Ice Cream
Thursday, September 8
7:00 pm @ Lobby 13
Foxtrot & Waltz
Saturday, September 10
2:00 pm @ Morss Hall
Mock Competition & Pizza!
MIT Ballroom Dance Team
ballroom.mit.edu
/mitbdt
mit.bdt
Event sponsored by Graduate Student Council
all graduate students welcome



Can you beat this drawing?
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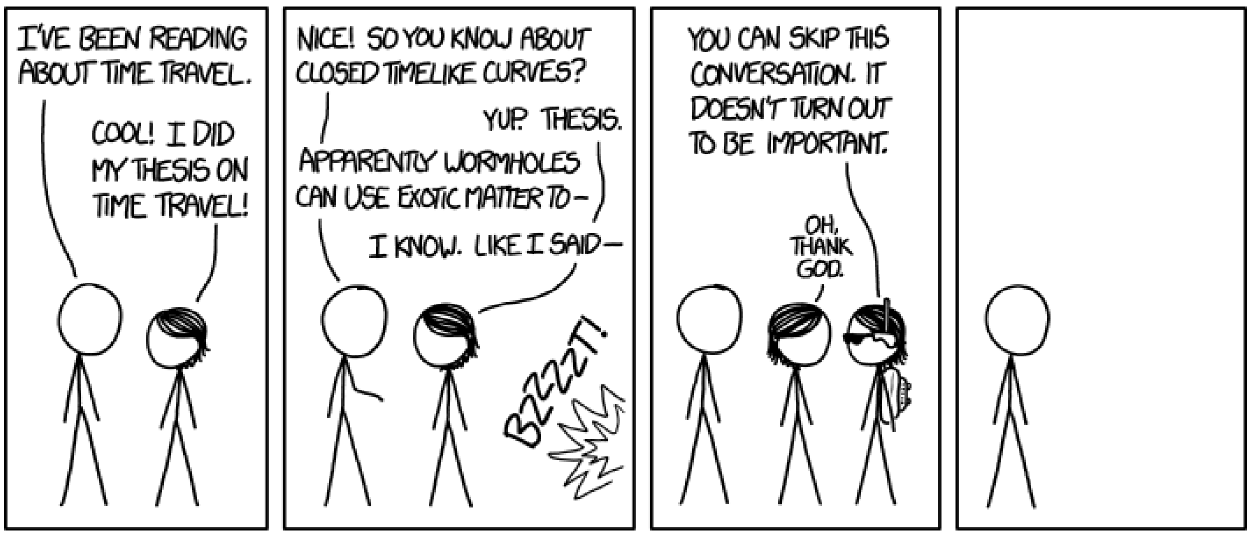
A webcomic of romance, sarcasm, math, and language

by Randall Munroe

[1716] Time Travel Thesis


I'VE BEEN READING ABOUT TIME TRAVEL.
COOL! I DID MY THESIS ON TIME TRAVEL!
NICE! SO YOU KNOW ABOUT CLOSED TIMELIKE CURVES?
YUP. THESIS.
APPARENTLY WORMHOLES CAN USE EXOTIC MATTER TO—
I KNOW. LIKE I SAID—
BZZZZT!
YOU CAN SKIP THIS CONVERSATION. IT DOESN'T TURN OUT TO BE IMPORTANT.
OH, THANK GOD.

"Hey, what are those futuristic goggles for, anyway?" "Oh, this is just a broken Google Glass. It was 2010's night at the club."

Sudoku

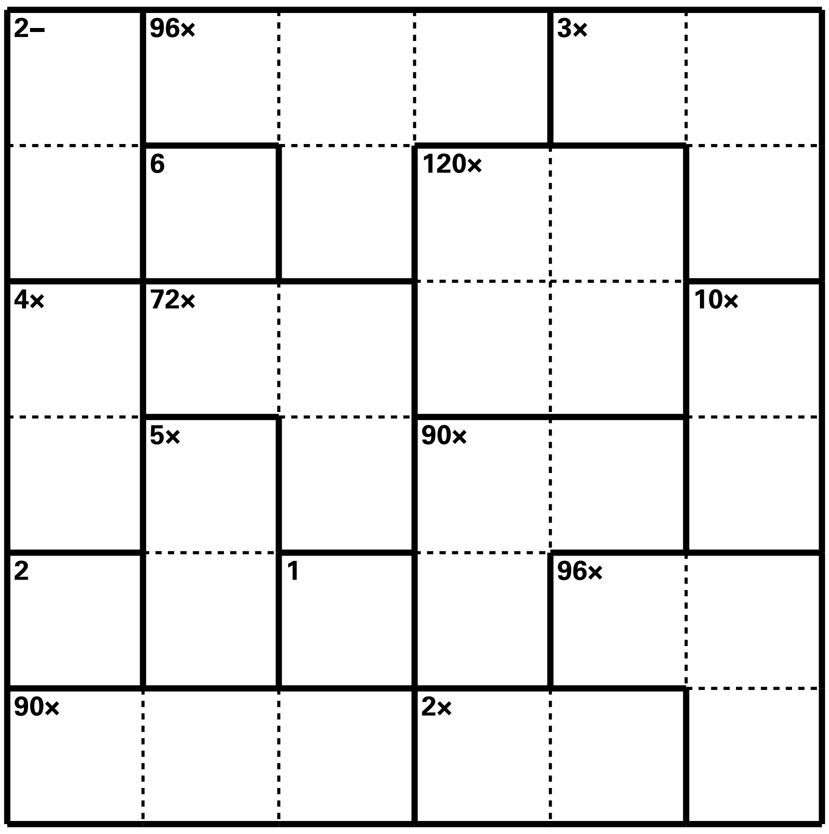
Solution, page 11

				7	6			
2			9					
			3			7	9	4
		2		1			8	9
5	8	9		3		6	1	7
7	1			8		4		
6	7	8			5			
					3			1
			8	9				

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Techdoku

Solution, page 11



2–	96×			3×	
	6		120×		
4×	72×				10×
	5×		90×		
2		1		96×	
90×			2×		

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Saturday Stumper by Brad Wilber

Solution, page 11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	■	9	10	11	12	13	14
15								■	16					
17								■	18					
19			■	20				21		■	22			
23			24			■	25			26		■	■	■
■	■	■	27			28	■	29				30	31	32
33	34	35			■	36	37							
38				■	39					■	40			
41				42					■	43				
44							■	45	46			■	■	■
■	■	■	47				48	■	49			50	51	52
53	54	55		■	56			57			■	58		
59				60		■	61				62			
63						■	64							
65						■	66							

ACROSS

1 City Hall honorees
9 Crook in sports
15 Word from the Italian for "small chapel"
16 Gaga
17 They might take the cake
18 One could work under pressure
19 What fog often pushes back
20 Weaving project
22 Pronghorn weapon
23 Stereotypical farm plodder
25 Element of some readouts
27 Class __
29 Gossip-mill fodder
33 Capital near the equator and the prime meridian
36 Mercurial person
38 Milling by-product
39 Lay off
40 Book with family trees on the endpapers, say
41 Uniform factors
43 Type of pharyngitis
44 What many cookies are
45 Half of hexadeca-
47 Dismantled
49 Bingo-ball bin
53 Put something over on
56 Limited-perspective
58 Big name in wrappers
59 Irish princess of opera
61 Efficiency expert's concern
63 Don't panic
64 Bruise
65 Steelers' "Turnpike Rival"
66 Unpopular in the extreme

DOWN

1 Didn't give up
2 Inspiration for Orpheus
3 Domino domain
4 Atlantic Div. skaters
5 Republic annexed by France in 1769
6 Make comfortable, in a way
7 Landing spot
8 "Bummer"
9 Boggle, e.g.
10 Peace activist since the '60s
11 Idiosyncrasy of Cockney
12 Regular in the Thor films
13 Regular
14 Razzie nominee as King David
21 Collage co-inventor
24 Bird of the species Hirundo rustica
26 Ending like -oid
28 Stage presence
30 "If we __ temples, they will crumble to dust": Webster
31 Onetime Italian ruler of 5 Down
32 Onesie feature
33 Runs in preschool
34 Radically shorten, maybe
35 Like reeds
37 Top with a crown
39 Certain sauce source
42 Not much of a knock
43 Buy by the bushel
46 Some low-battery warnings
48 Hauled off
50 Lobster appendages
51 Place de l'éducation
52 Take a second?
53 Surname of "Britain's first family of harmony"
54 Client of a sort
55 Pliny's place
57 Apple category
60 The Last __ (Puzo novel)
62 Calendar-watch reading

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Photo: Sarah Lynn Hill Photography

Council for the Arts at MIT

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Grad friendly

Alums Nackoul and Toro chase Olympic dreams

Nackoul, a weightlifter, and Toro, a rower, discuss training amidst psets and stress

By Souparno Ghosh
SPORTS EDITOR

The 2016 Olympic Games are in the books. Usain Bolt is still the fastest man on the track and Michael Phelps the fastest in the pool, although Ryan Lochte did all he could to come out of Phelps's shadows.

Competing in the Olympics is every athlete's dream, and yet at MIT, the Olympics is most often associated with physics, mathematics, or chemistry. While it is unsurprising that a number of students, both past and present have won accolades at one of the academic Olympiads, there have been MIT athletes who have dared to not let the firehose get in the way of their Olympic aspirations.

The Tech caught up with Michael A. Nackoul '13 and Veronica Toro '16 to hear about their journeys.

Nackoul had been weightlifting at the highest level since high school, having won the youth national championship twice. Representing MIT, he won the university national championship and then the junior national championship. By the time he was clinching a top 10 finish at world junior championships in Malaysia, he had a pretty good idea that he wanted to compete professionally and vie for an Olympic berth.

Toro's quest for an Olympic berth was unique in more ways than one. She arrived at MIT having played softball and volleyball in high school. Realizing she would not be tall enough to play middle blocker in the MIT varsity team, she was advised to try out for lightweight rowing by a TA when she was doing the Interphase program the summer prior to freshman year.

When Toro went back home to Puerto Rico that winter she became aware of the Puerto Rico Rowing Federation from an advertisement in the newspaper. That was when she was told she had a pretty good chance to be an elite rower. But a lot of hard work was still to be done.

So what does it take to train at the highest level?

"When I was a full time athlete I would do fifteen workouts a week, three times (including warm-ups) a day on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and then twice on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. It is a full time commitment," added Nackoul.

"I would row with the MIT team (openweight since sophomore year) in the mornings and then by myself in the afternoons. At the Olympics you row scull — that is you row both sides, whereas at MIT I [only] rowed on the starboard side,"said Toro.

Nackoul often had to drive 30-45 minutes to a friend's garage to train for Olympic lifting. He is grateful for the support and encouragement he received from MIT football coach Chad Martinovich.

"He was very supporting. He would let me use the varsity weight rooms whenever possible," said Nackoul.

> **"When I was a full time athlete I would do fifteen workouts a week, three times (including warm-ups) a day on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and then twice on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. It is a full time commitment."**
> *— Michael A. Nackoul '13*

Toro learnt pretty early on to ask for help. "I think having done the Interphase program made it easy for me to ask for help," he added.

"The assistant coach would often record us while we rowed and I sought her feedback about how I was doing with respect to techniques."

But perhaps the biggest lesson Toro learnt was from coach Holly Metcalf.

"When you think you are rowing the hardest and you are at the brink of your limits, know that you can push harder," reminisced Toro.

It is not just the training. Recovery is as important.

"You need to be sleeping well and eating healthy at the same time,"noted Nackoul.

With the strenuous training and recovery how did they handle the psets?

"I discussed problems with my friends. I went to every office-hour and recitation," remarked Toro.

"Organic chemistry was one of the hardest courses I had to take and there were all these complex syntheses that I could not wrap my head around. I still remember Professor Jamison telling me that 'everyone always looks at synthesis going forward. Think of the products and a couple of ways you can get to it.' I made flash cards and was able to make it through organic chemistry," recollected Toro.

Nackoul misses the environment at MIT where a lot of talented people really believe that anything is possible. He is currently based in Seattle working on new technologies for athletes in training.

For Toro one of her memorable moments was being voted the most inspirational rower by her teammates on the varsity team.

"I cared a lot and worked very hard for the team and the team acknowledging that was really special!"

After graduating, Nackoul moved to Colorado Springs to train for the 2016 Olympic trials. Unfortunately a surgery on the right knee and one to repair the left rotator cuff meant he had to postpone his Olympic aspirations for another four years. Nackoul still competes recreationally as he mulls getting back into competitive lifting post-rehabilitation.

Since being introduced to rowing in her freshman year, Toro has taken giant strides. She just missed the bronze medal in the Central American games in 2014; in the 2016 Olympic trials for Latin American countries in March, Toro finished one position below the final qualifier. Toro finished the year with her first medal for the MIT varsity team in the Patriot League and is headed to Stanford Medical School.

"People think I am crazy as I want to train for Tokyo Olympics in 2020 while in medical school," she commented. "But if I could do it while at MIT, I think I can do that too."

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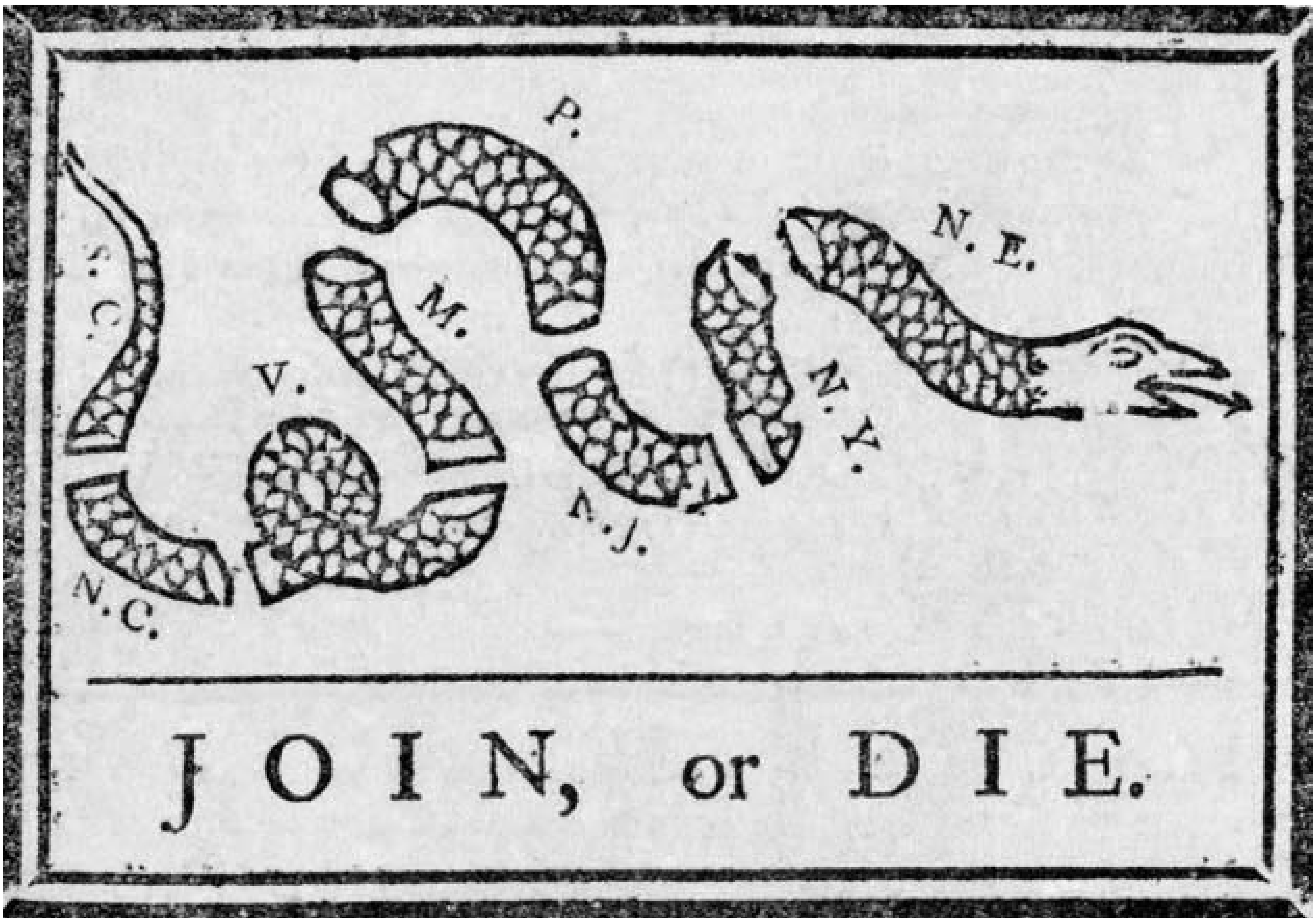

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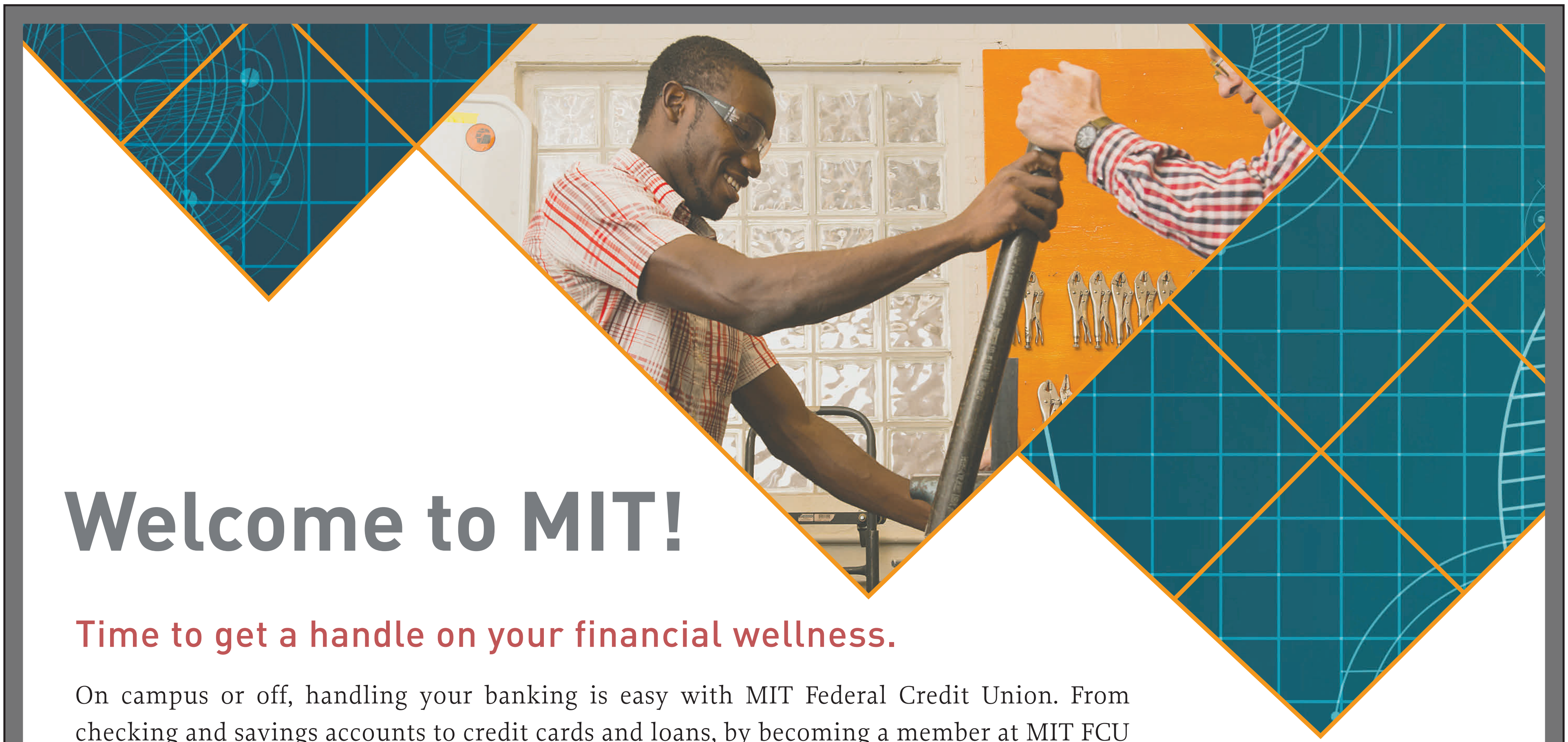

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